

convinced of that, so I want the opportunity to read into the record the same thing that I did this morning for the University of Nebraska at Lincoln as far as their athletic program is concerned. I think Senator Warner, I hope Senator Warner is right, that the trustees will spread those cuts around to other places. I think that is what they are attempting to say with the...and I sent that around to you, the statement that was approved by the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, along with Senator Miller. I hope that if they do make cuts in the athletic program, and I think it is the intent of this Legislature, and I hope it would be, that it would be handled in the same manner that I suggested this morning that UN-L do it, and that is that it would be handled in a uniform manner across their athletic programs and it would not fall, in spite of what Title IX says, it would not fall on the burden of the female athletes. The female athletic programs at the University and the state colleges and all other institutions have had a tough time getting to any level of equity. They are slowly beginning to get there and I hope cuts from this level doesn't start setting them back. I want the state colleges to know, as I told you this morning, and I want the University to know, that there are some of us in this body that are going to be watching that, and if it looks like it is going to be applied unevenly, they are going to hear from some of us. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to oppose this motion. I think this is the third or fourth time that we have discussed this issue. First we discussed the commissions individually. We took the Indian Commission, the Mexican-American Commission, the Status of Women Commission and now we have combined them again as we did late last night, only now we have added the athletic program in with it, like somebody said before, to sweeten the pot to get another two or three votes so that this amendment will carry. I am committed to a no-tax-rate increase this year. I think I have told you that many times on the floor, unless it is for property tax relief. And last week we were fortunate enough to cut \$5.7 million from the budget. Then we came back the first of the week again and cut another little over 9 million. And just today we cut another 3 million. And so with these cuts I feel that we will not have to raise the tax rate. But now if we adopt